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| 14. ABSTRACT<br>The composites of a high porosity and of an increased number of terminal hydroxyl groups were prepared. The synthesized materials were exposed to CWA surrogate vapors (CEES or DMCP) at ambient conditions for various periods of time. The amounts adsorbed of either surrogates or their decomposition products were evaluated based on a weight gain. The products of surface reactions in the headspace or adsorbed on the surface were analyzed by MS. As a final step the active phase were deposited in fibers to create smart textile being able to protect and to detect CWA (based on the color change)  |             |                                |   |  |                                       |
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**Training Opportunities:**

**Results Dissemination:**

**Plans Next Period:**

**Honors and Awards:**

**Protocol Activity Status:**

**Technology Transfer:**

# INSIGHT INTO MULTIFUNCTIONAL REACTIVE ADSORBENTS

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The City College of New York

# OBJECTIVE

- ✓ Evaluation of the reactive adsorption capability for CWA surrogates of novel porous composite adsorbents consisting transition metals oxides, alone or in the mixed phase with the modified graphene phase, and with gold or silver nanoparticles
- ✓ Understanding the basic science related to the activity of these materials as adsorbents and decontamination media
- ✓ Materials engineering/deposition of the active phase on fabrics



# Materials: Past efforts

- ✓ Iron (hydr)oxide: FERRIHYDRITE
- ✓ Copper hydroxynitrate
- ✓ Zinc hydroxide

## Composites

- ✓ With graphite oxide (GO)
- ✓ With aminated GO (GOU)
- ✓ With AgNP

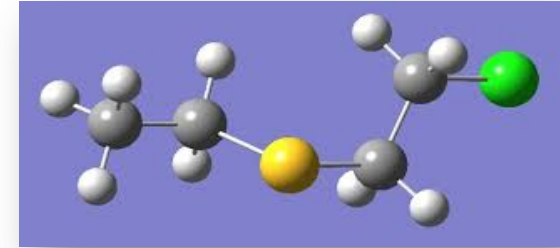
# Motivation for the materials' choice

- ☑ Relatively high surface areas
- ☑ Oxygen vacancies as active sites
- ☑ Photoactive in UV-Vis
- ☑ Terminal OH groups
- ☑ GO
  - ☑ enhances dispersion of inorganic phase
  - ☑ provides electronic conductivity for redox reactions
  - ☑ (GOU) activates oxygen
  - ☑ increases surface heterogeneity/defects

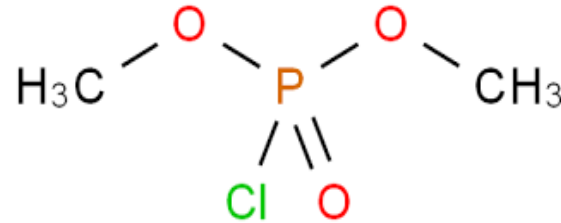
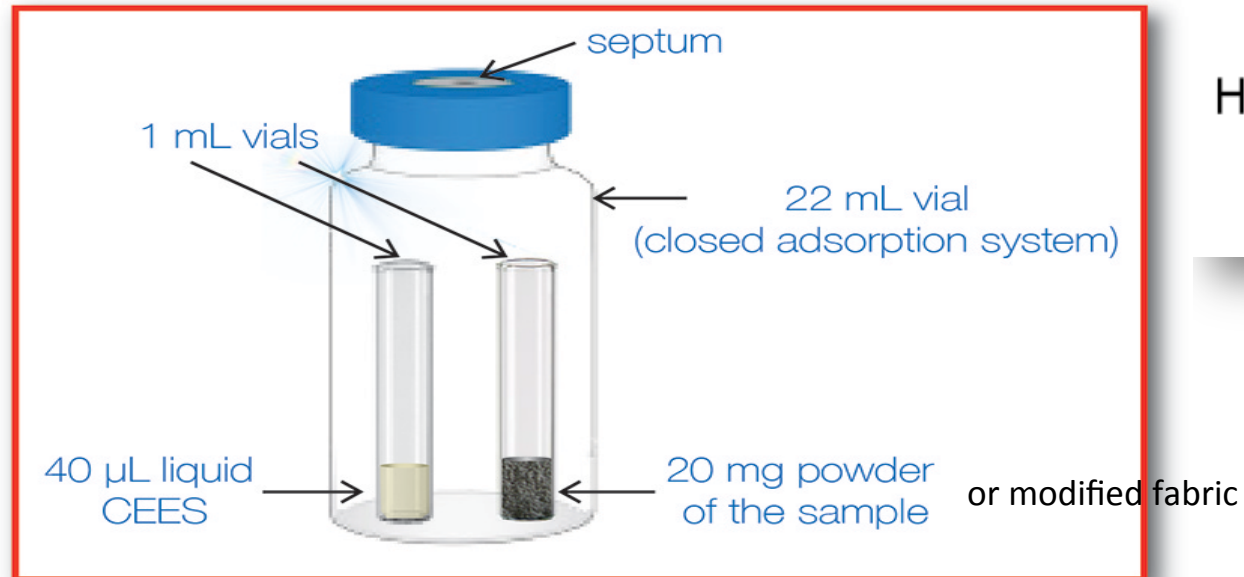
# Testing CWA surrogate interactions

## Surrogates:

● CEES- 2-chloroethyl ethyl sulfide (HD)



● DMCP- dimethyl chlorophosphate (nerve agents)X)

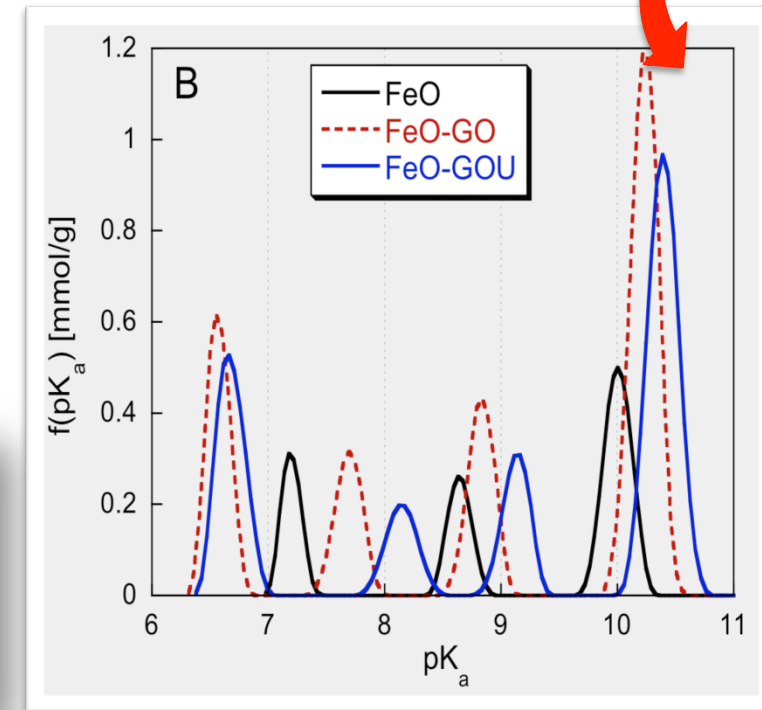
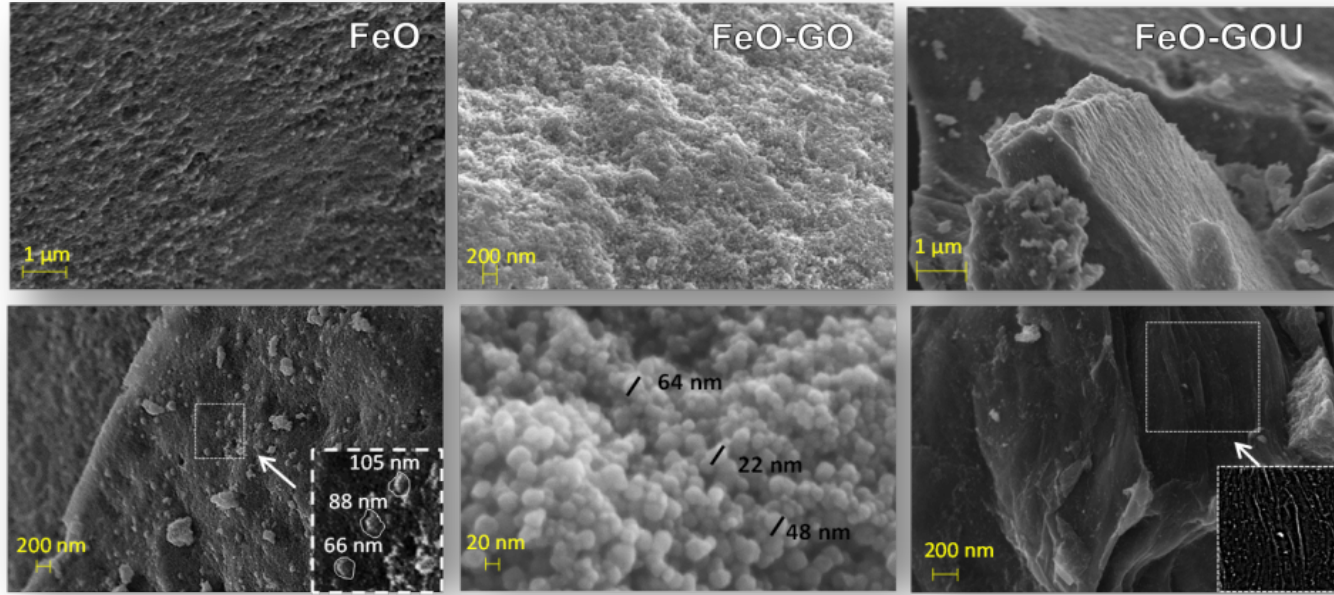


# Approaches to derive mechanisms

- ✓ Analysis of the surface of initial hydroxides and their composites (porosity, chemistry, microstructure, texture)(N<sub>2</sub>, PT, FTIR, SEM, HRTEM..)
  - ✓ Analysis of the surface of the exhausted samples (FTIR, TA-MS)
  - ✓ Analysis of the surface extraction products (GC
- ✓ -MS)
  - ✓ Analysis of the headspace in the close system (GC-MS)

# Major Findings: texture and chemistry

| Sample  | $S^{\text{BET}}$<br>[m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> ] | $V_{\text{T}}$<br>[cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> ] | $V_{\text{mic}}$<br>[cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> ] | $V_{\text{meso}}$<br>[cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> ] | $V_{\text{meso}}/V_{\text{mic}}$ |
|---------|---|--|--|---|----------------------------------|
| FeO     | 200   | 0.265  | 0.073  | 0.192   | 2.6                              |
| FeO-GO  | 243   | 0.304  | 0.087  | 0.217   | 2.5                              |
| FeO-GOU | 288   | 0.312  | 0.102  | 0.210   | 2.1                              |

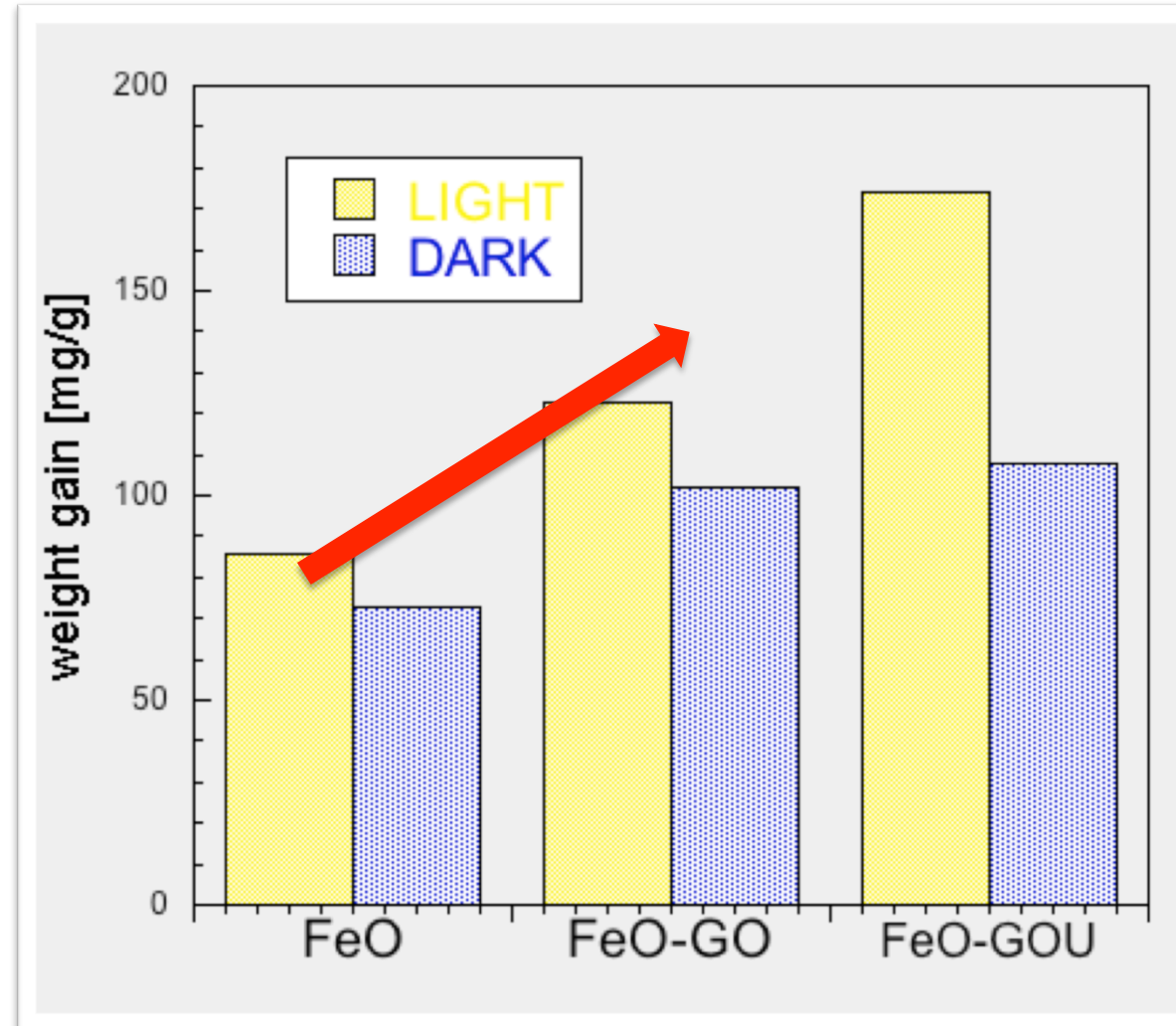
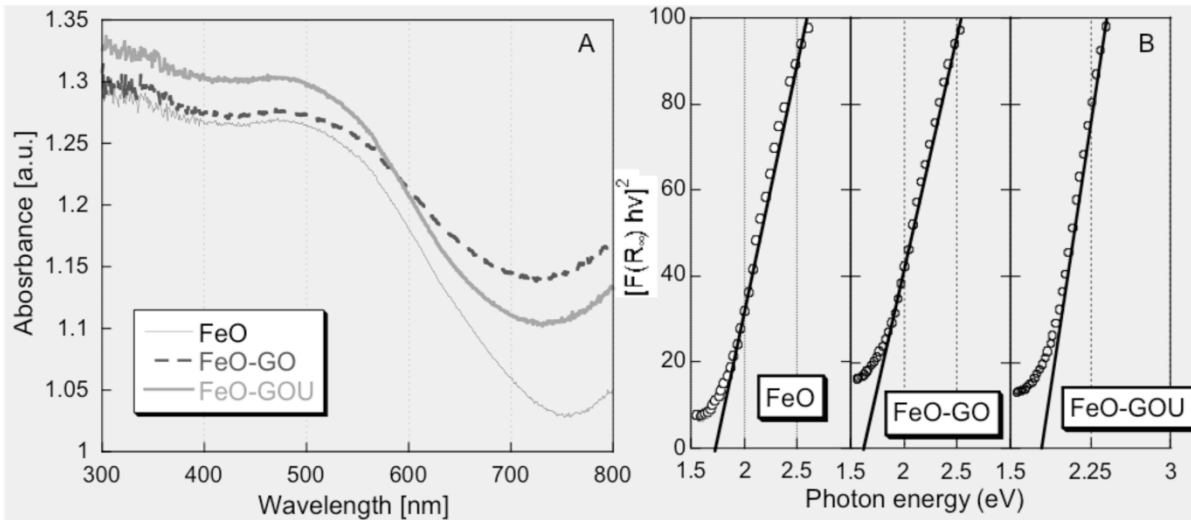


Terminal OH

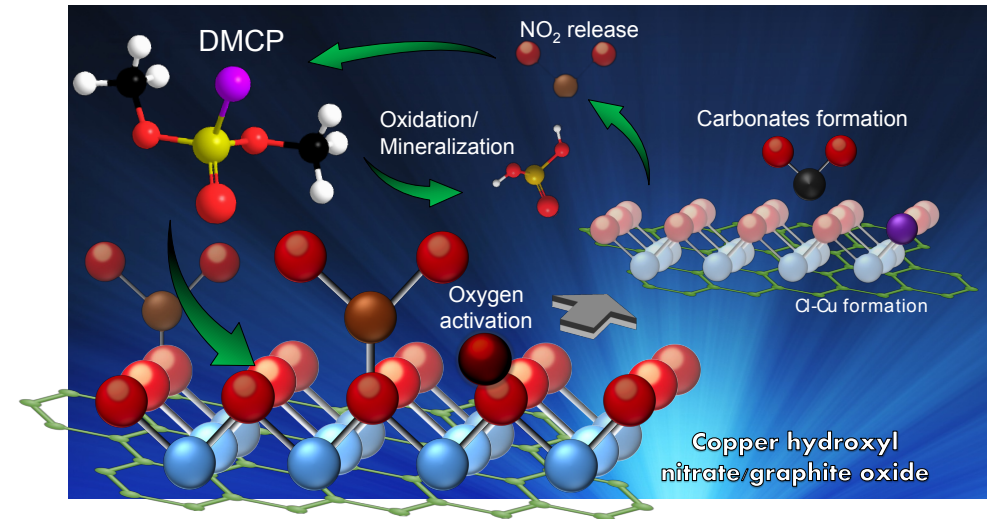
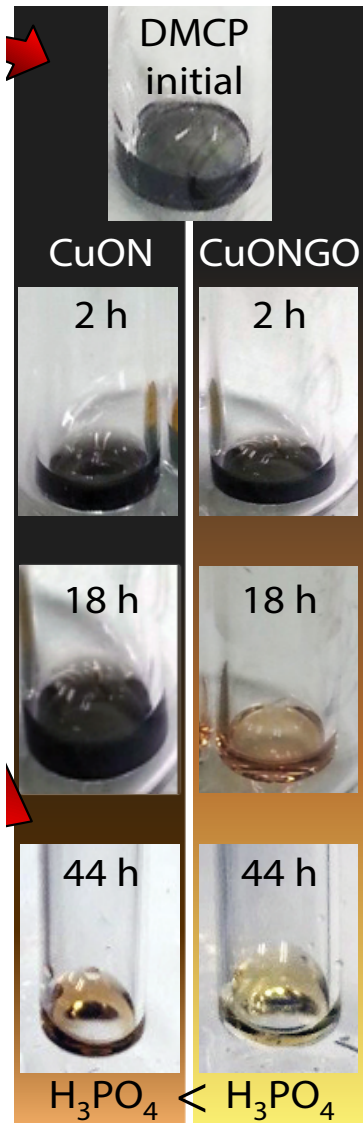
Arcibar Orozco et al. *J. Mater.Chem. A* 2015, 3, 17080-17090.



# Major Findings: Photoactivity



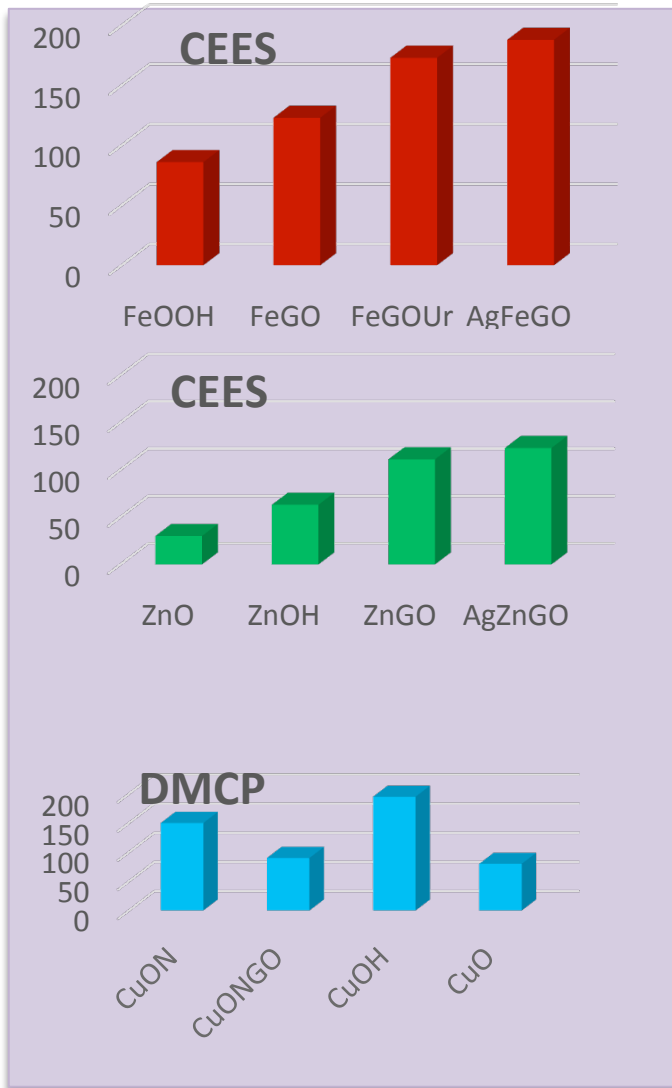
# Major Findings: activity (copper hydroxynitrate)



- ✓  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  detection in the liquid
- ✓  $\text{NO}_2$  detection in the headspace

| Sample | $\text{NO}_2$ Concentration [ppm] |      |
|--------|-----------------------------------|------|
|        | 24 h                              | 48 h |
| CuON   | 1.3                               | 27.0 |
| CuONGO | 15.9                              | 57.6 |

# Major Findings: Reactive adsorption



## HYDROLYSIS and OXIDATION

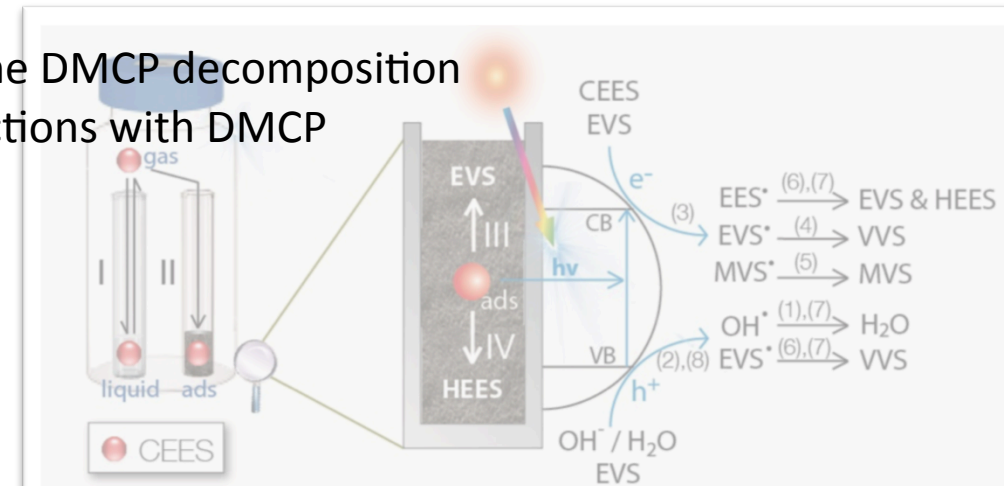
- Both hydrolysis (EVS) and oxidation (CEESO) take place
- GO: increase the oxidation performance
- AgNPs: increase photo-reactivity/radical reaction (disulfides)

## HYDROLYSIS and DEGRADATION

- The hydroxyl groups play a key role
- GO: increase the photocatalytic performance
- AgNPs: increased photo-reactivity/radical reaction (disulfides)

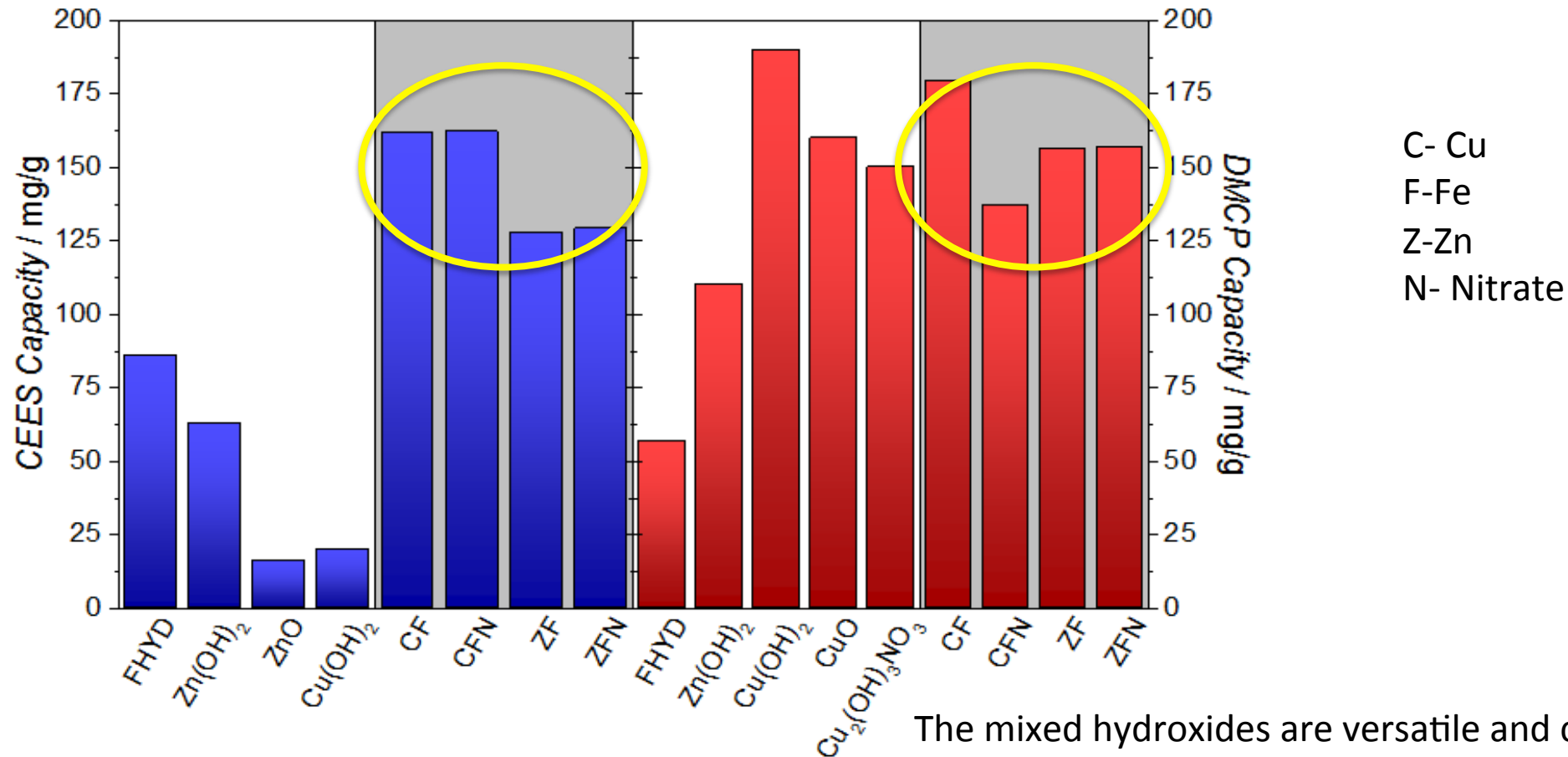
## HYDROLYSIS and OXIDATION

- GO considerably accelerates the DMCP decomposition
- Hydroxyl groups: direct interactions with DMCP
- Nitrate groups: NO<sub>x</sub> formation

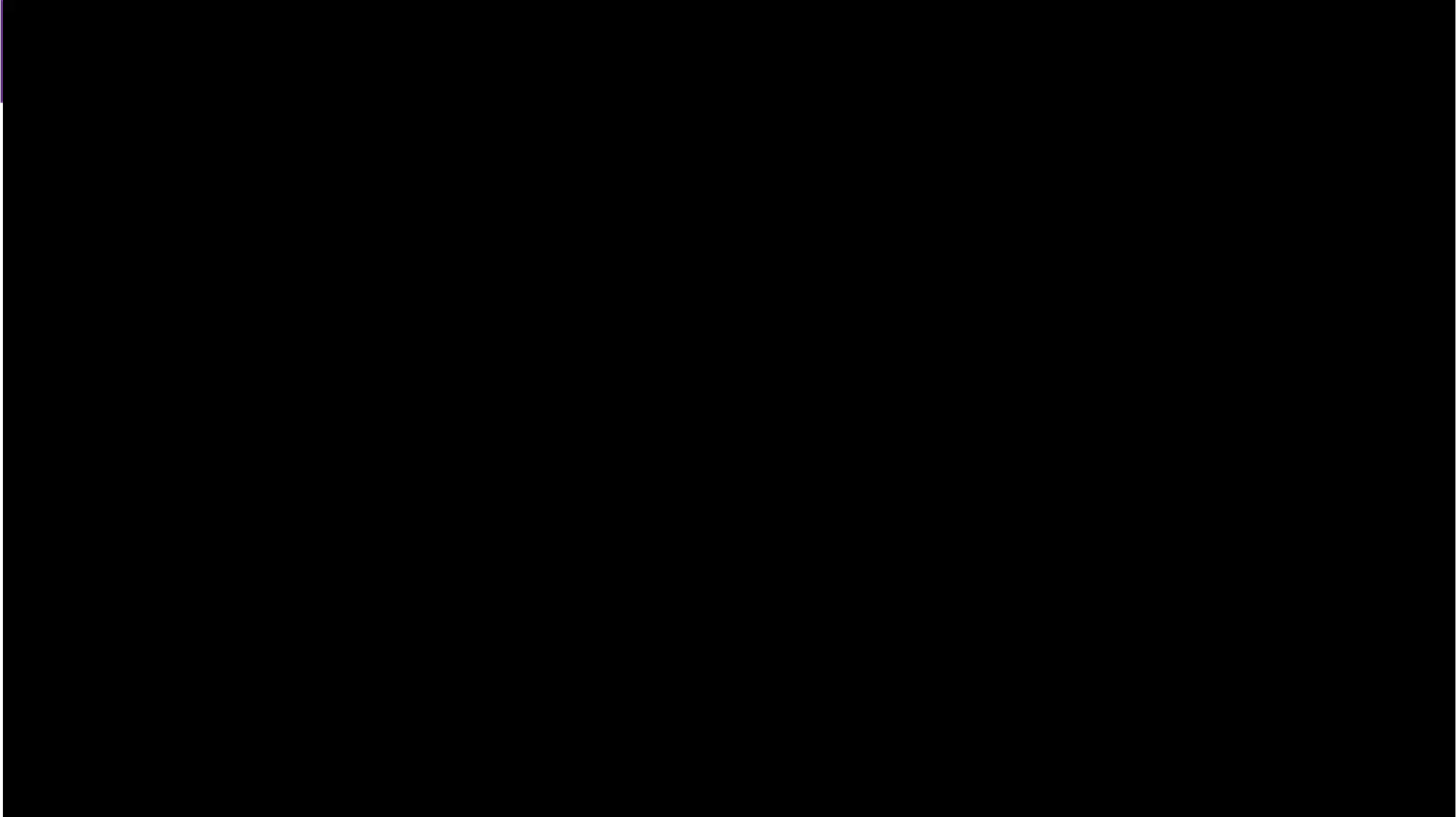




# Major Findings: Mixed oxide performance



The mixed hydroxides are versatile and can detoxify CEEs through **dehydrohalogenation** and DMCP through **hydrolysis**.



# Ferrihydrite on cotton



Loose Fibers  
7.1% Iron



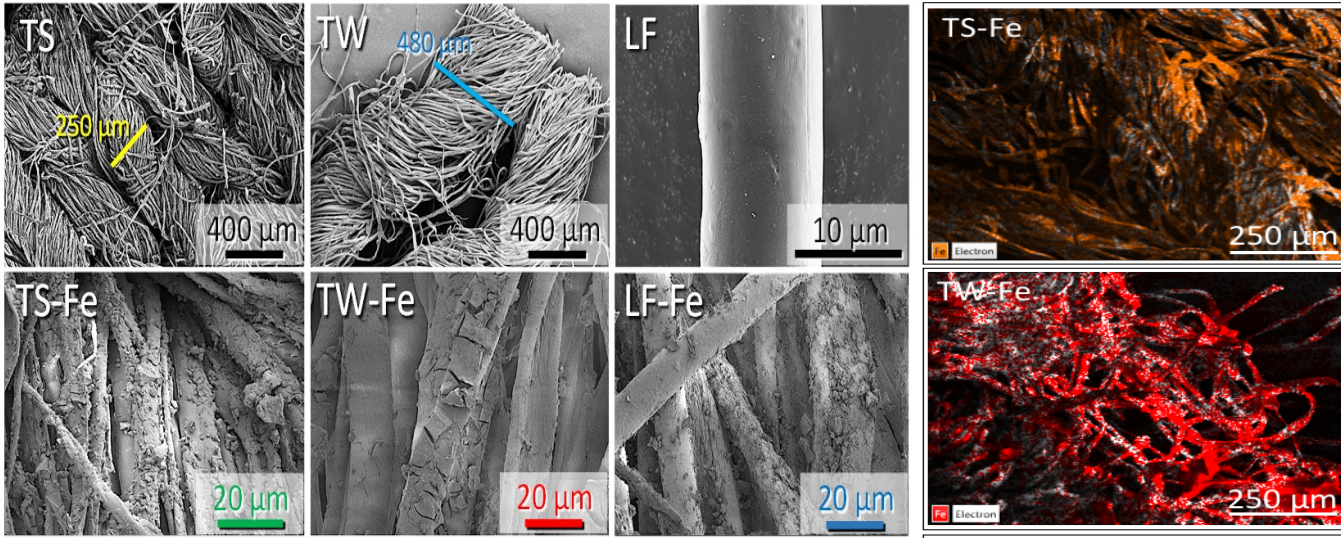
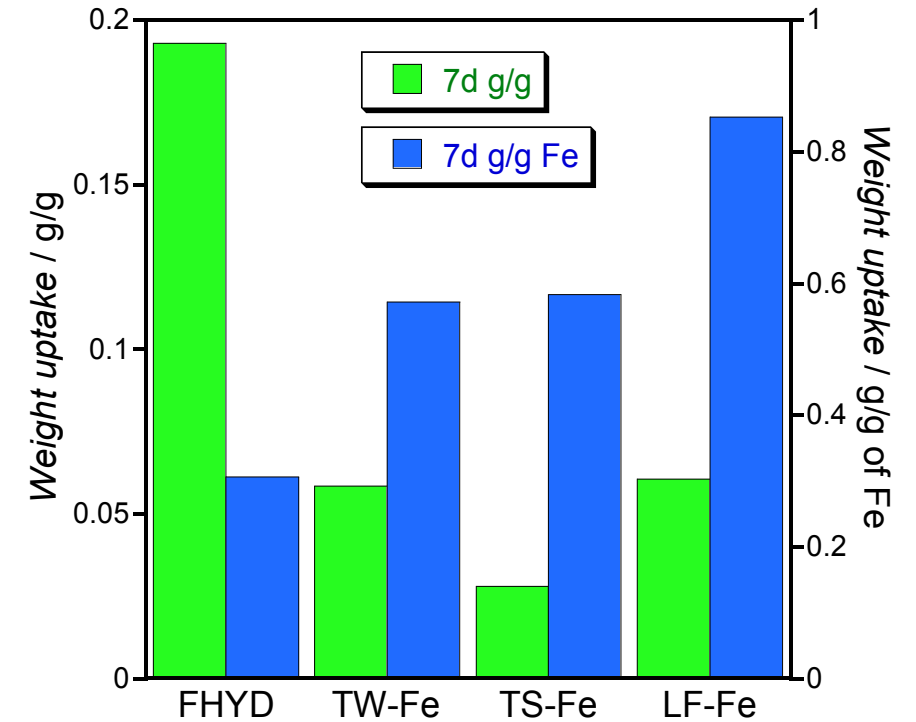
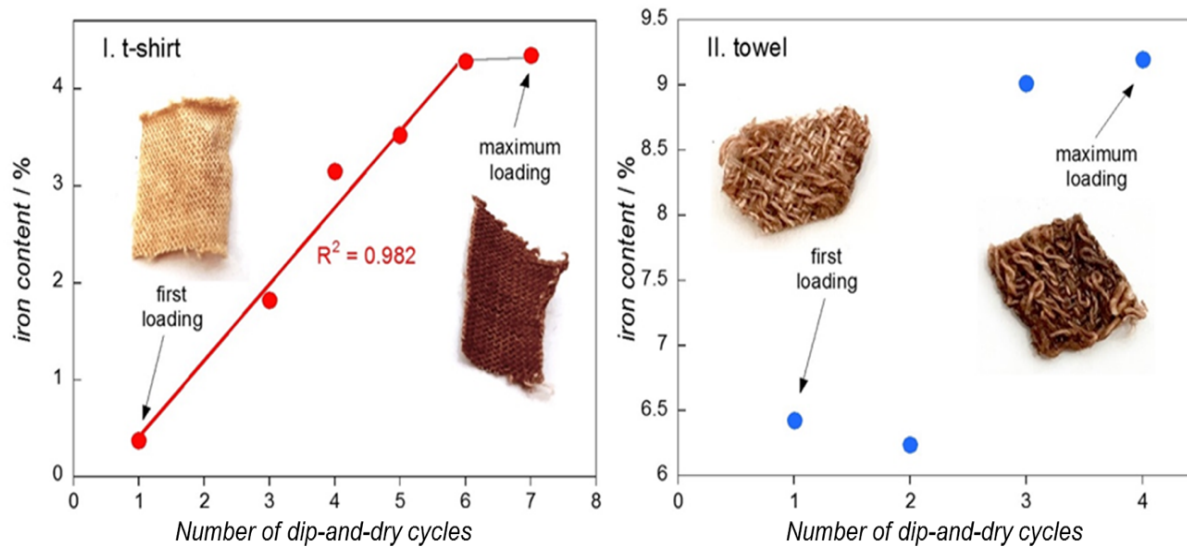
Swatch from TW  
10.2% Iron



Swatch from TS  
4.8 % Iron

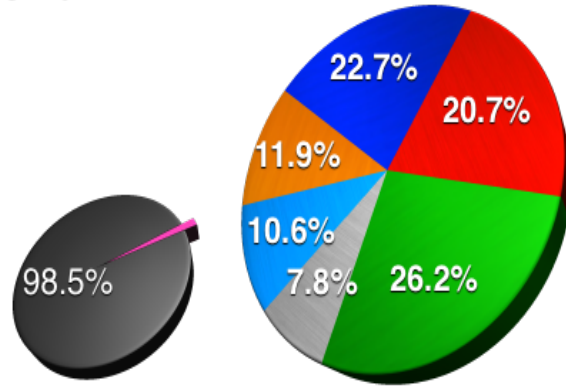


# Active Ferrihydrite phase on cotton: CEEES

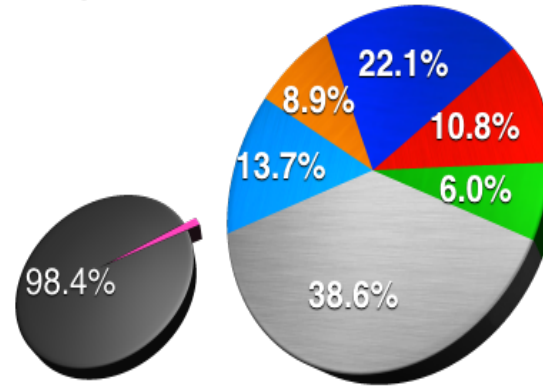


# Active Ferrihydrite phase on cotton: extract analysis

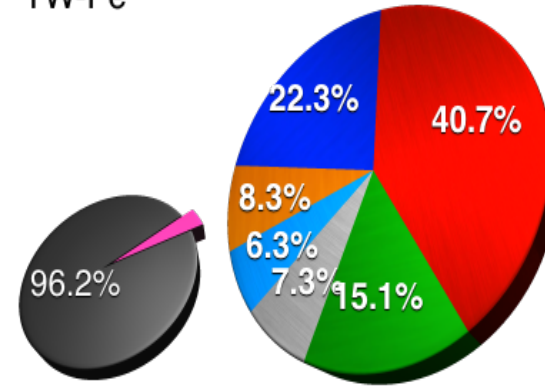
TS-Fe



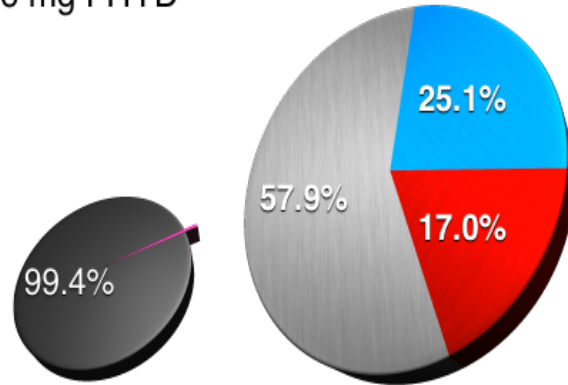
LF-Fe



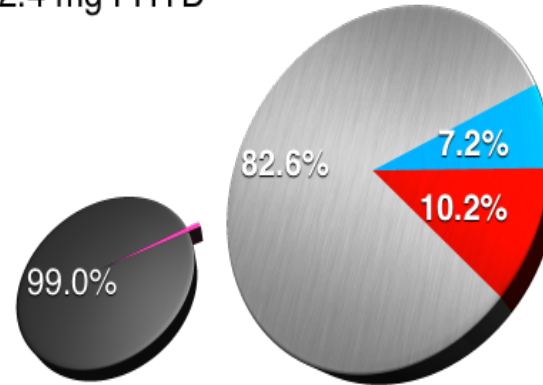
TW-Fe



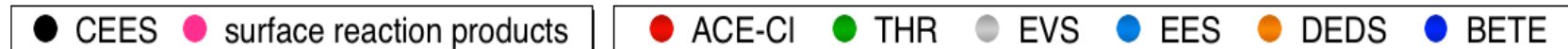
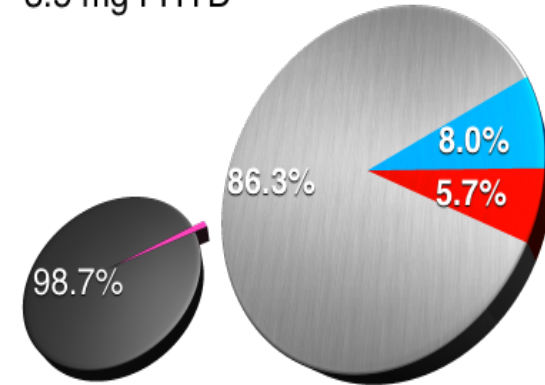
1.6 mg FHYD



2.4 mg FHYD



3.5 mg FHYD



# Active copper phase on cotton



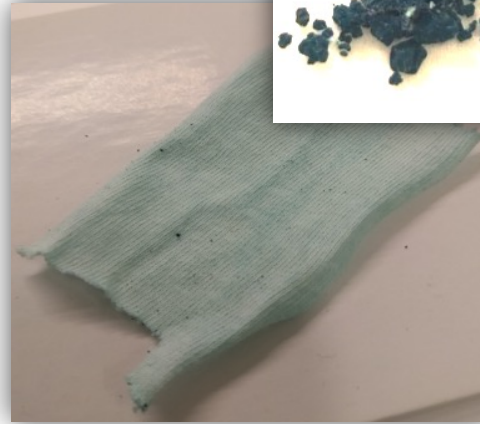
Swatch from Towel

Copper (hydr)oxide



Copper oxide

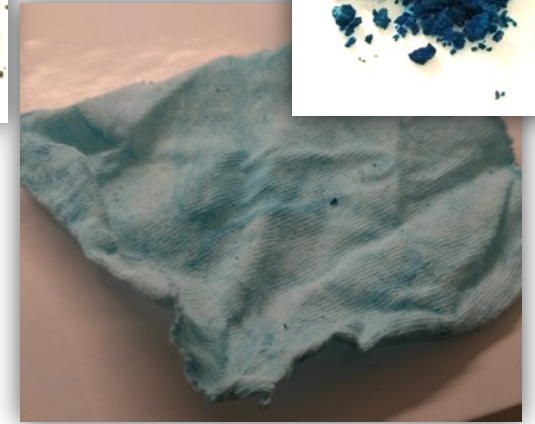
<2 % CuO



Swatch from T-shirt

Copper (hydr)oxide

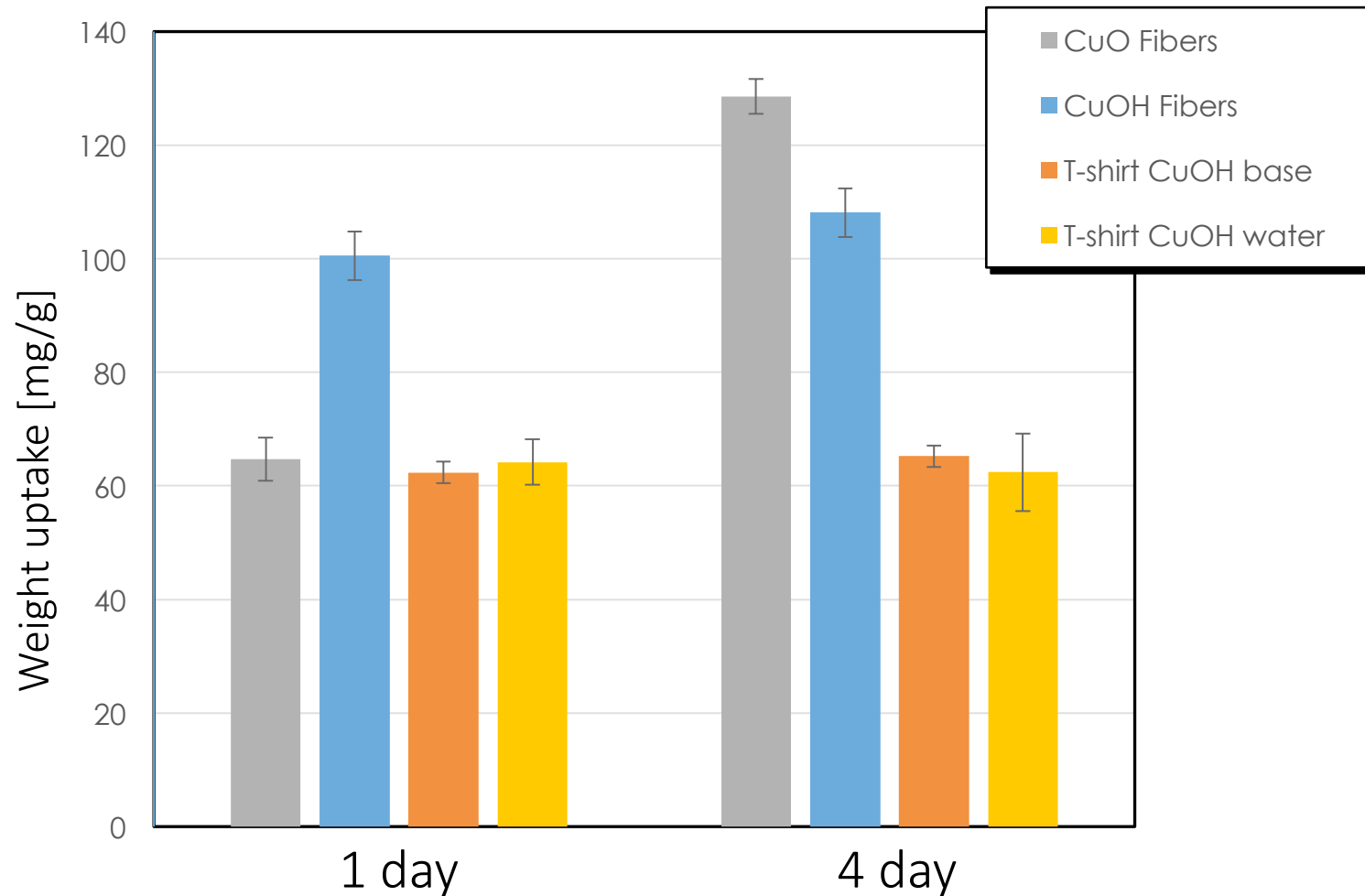
Washed with water



Washed with base

TA in air:  
5 % CuO

# Active copper phase on cotton fibers-DMCP

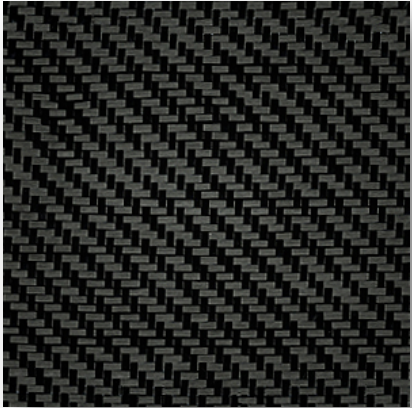


Copper content < 2 %

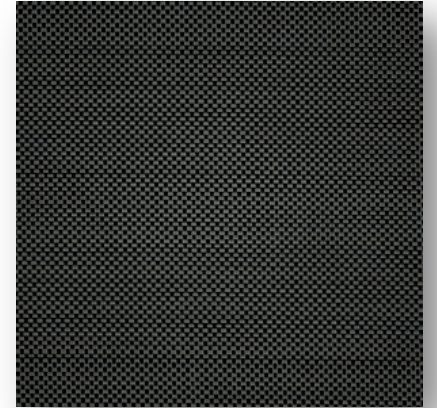


# Active copper phase on carbon fibers

## Types of Carbon

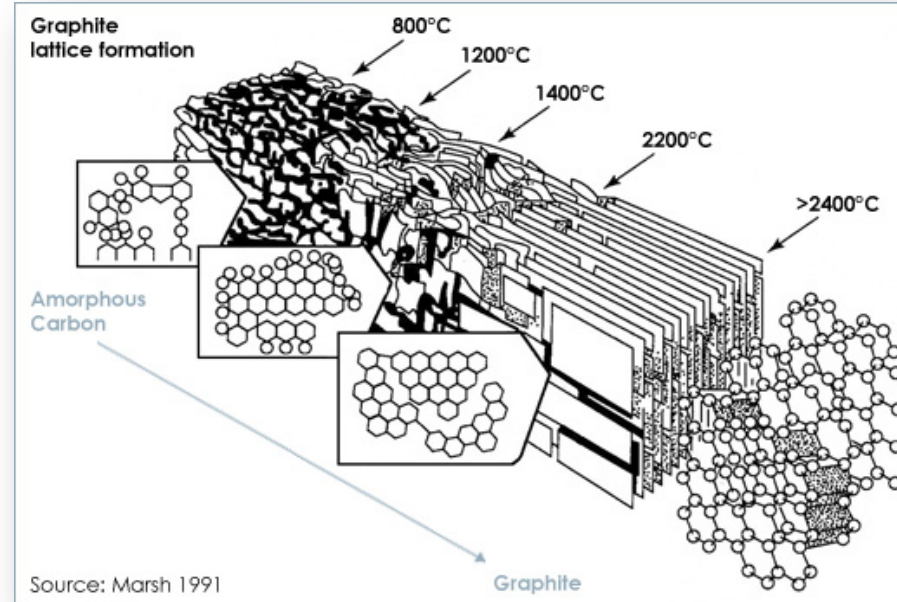


Graphite fiber swatch



Carbon swatch

Fibers  
from swatch

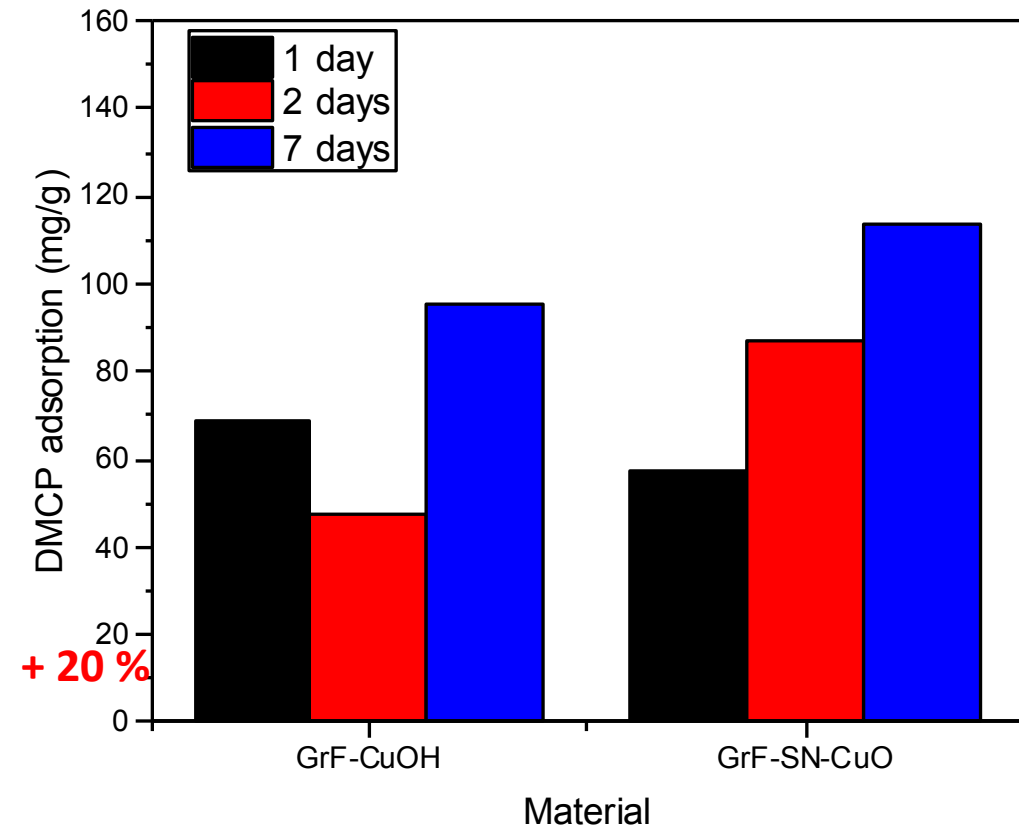




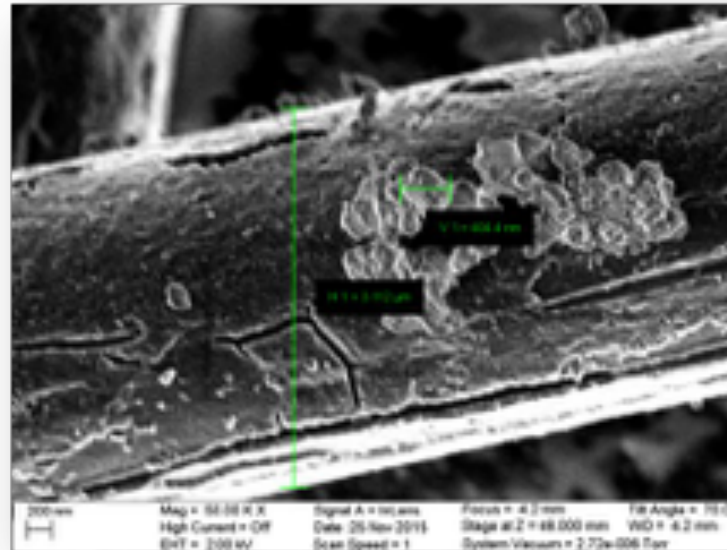
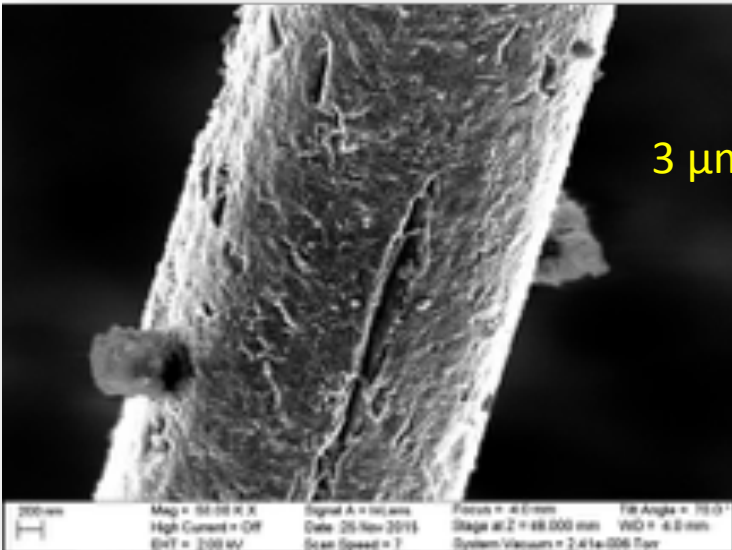
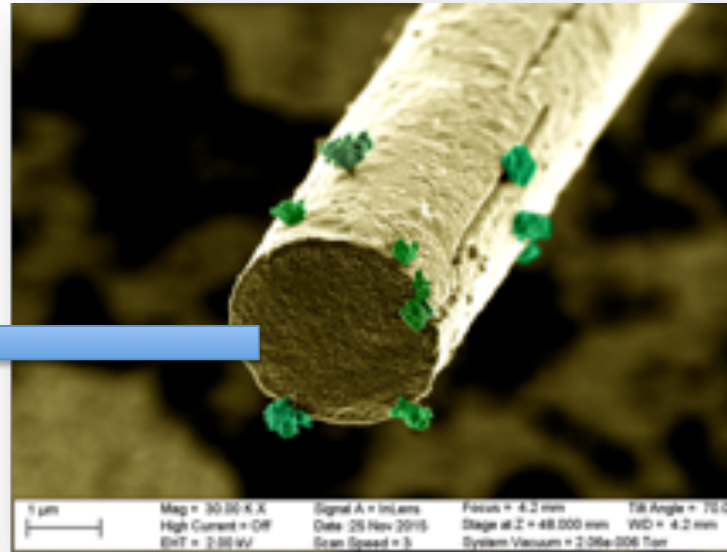
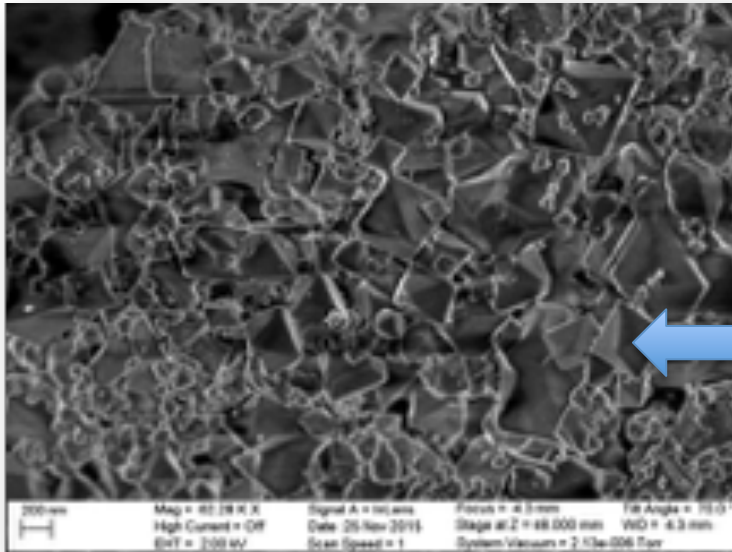
# Active copper phase on graphitic carbon fibers

< 3 % CuO

| Material   | DMCP adsorption mg/g |        |
|------------|----------------------|--------|
|            | 1 day                | 1 week |
| GrF+CuOH   | 69.1                 | 95.2   |
| GrF-NS+CuO | 57.1                 | 113.6  |

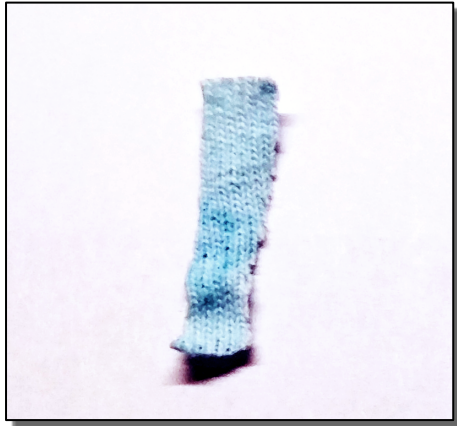


# Active copper phase on carbon fibers-Cu-BTC

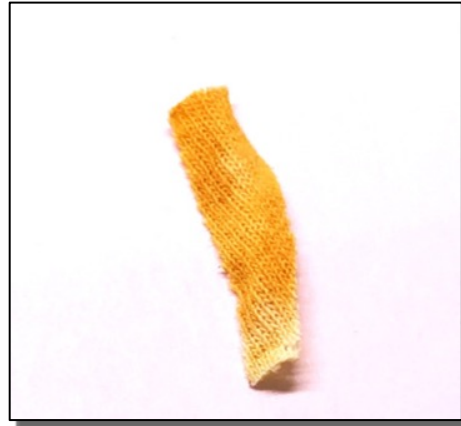


# Sensing capability

Swatch from T-shirt,  $\text{Cu}(\text{OH})_2$ , base washed

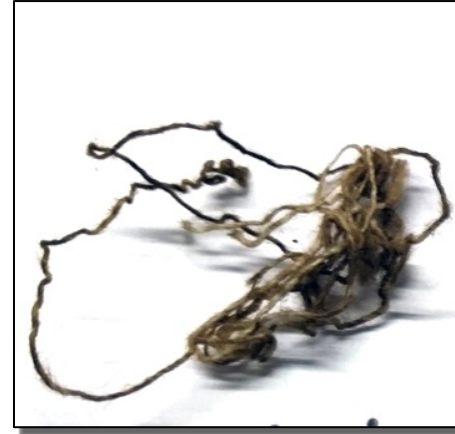


initial



24 hours

Swatch from Towel,  $\text{CuO}$

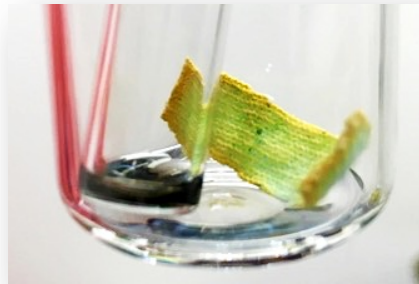


initial

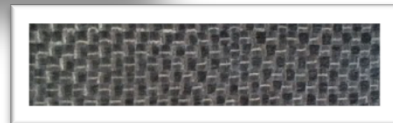


24 hours

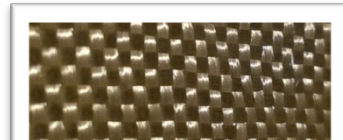
3 hours



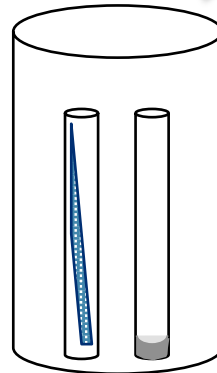
CF-SN+CuON



CF-SN+CuO



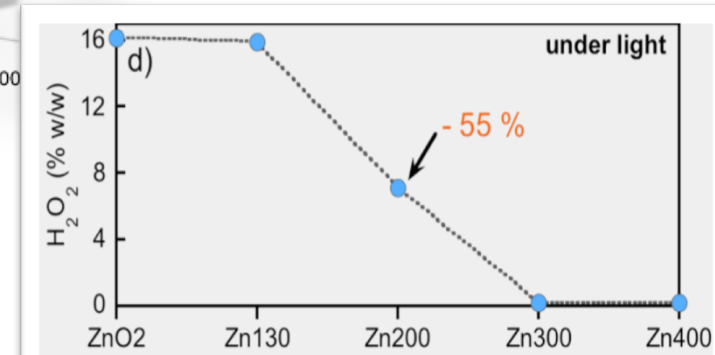
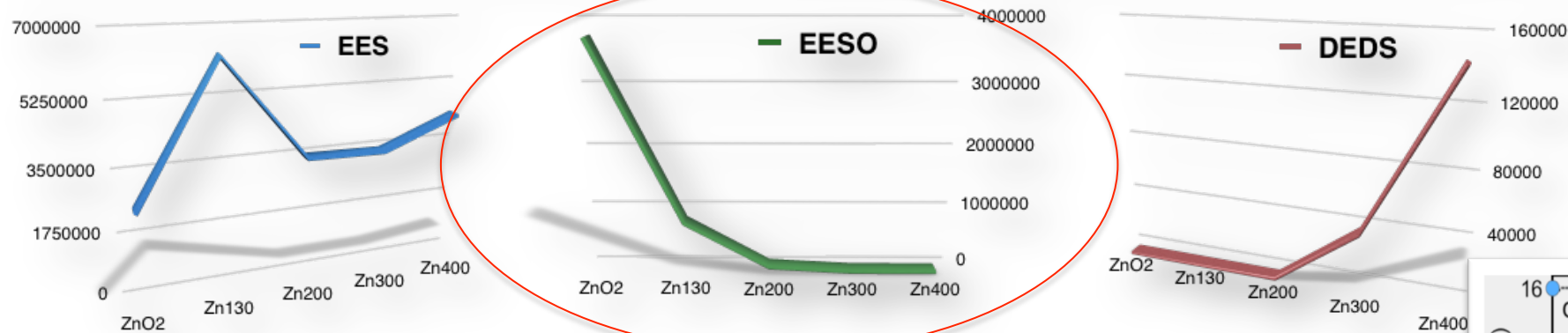
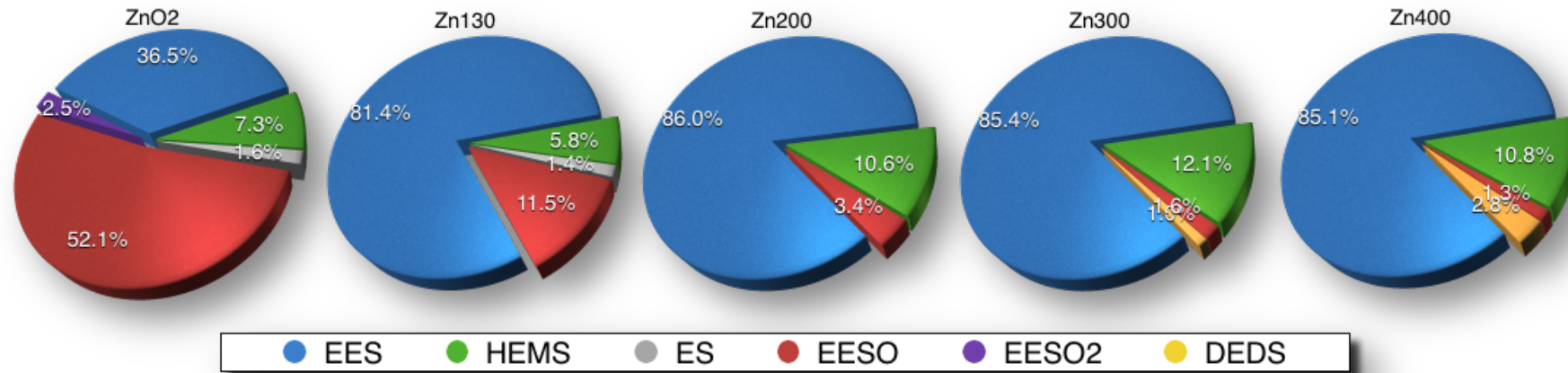
DMCP



3 hours

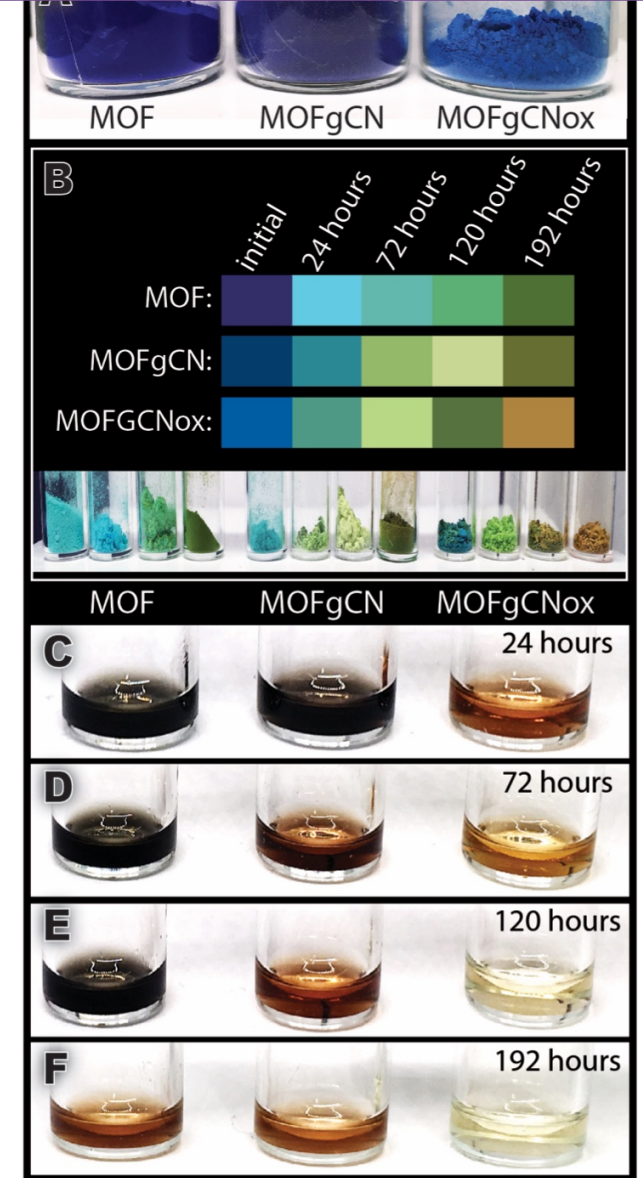
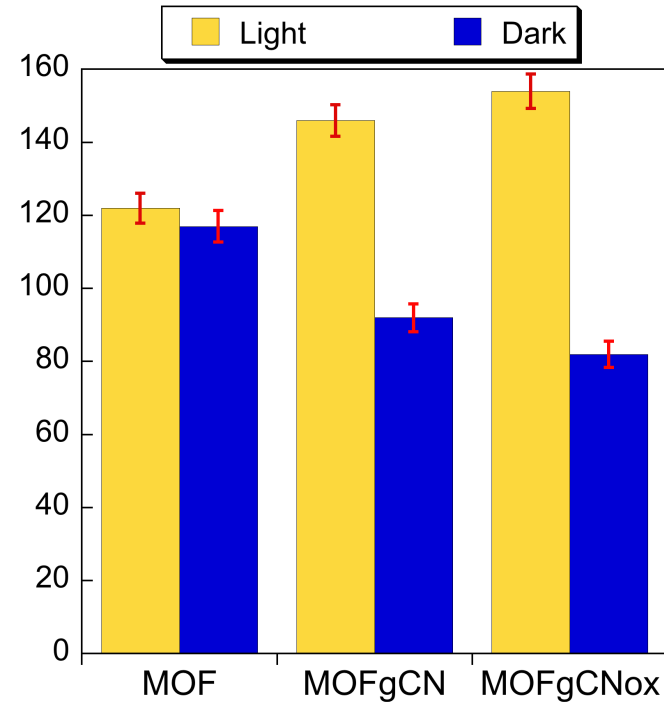
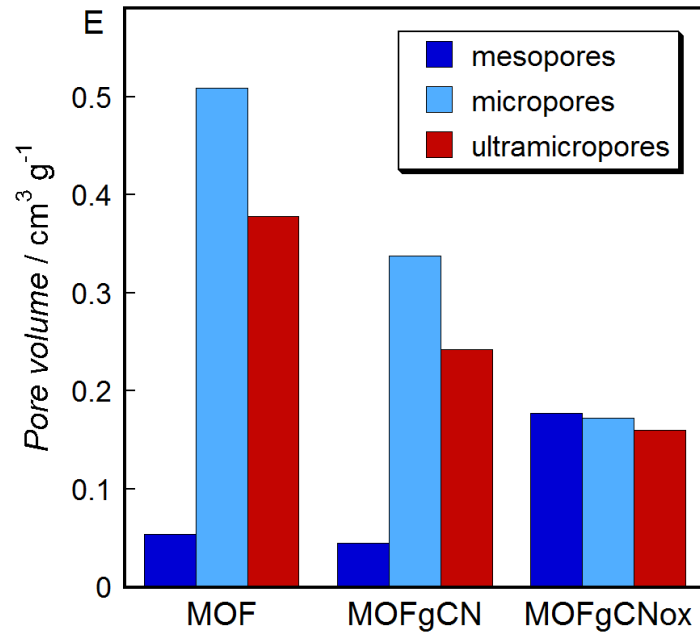


# ZnO<sub>2</sub> activity: EES conversion- Extracts analysis

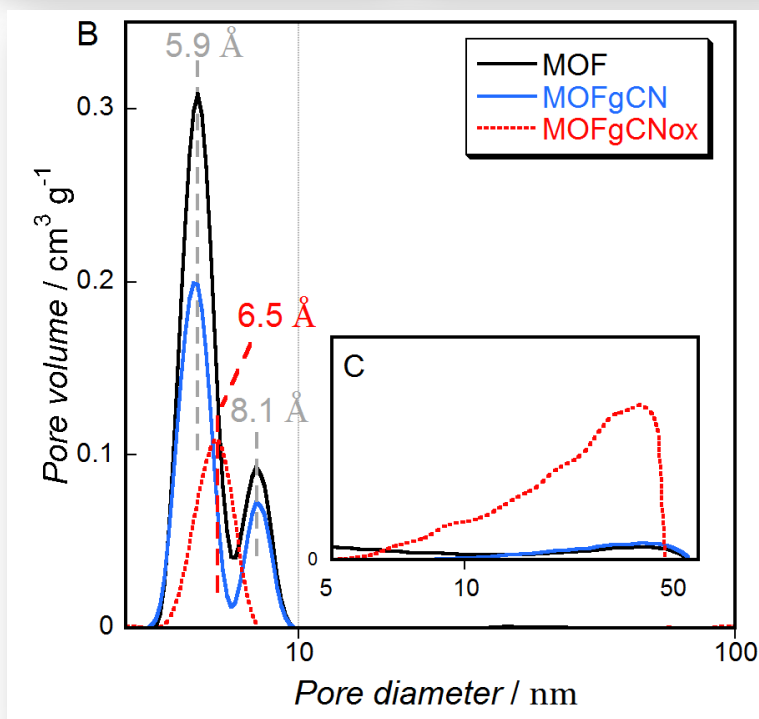
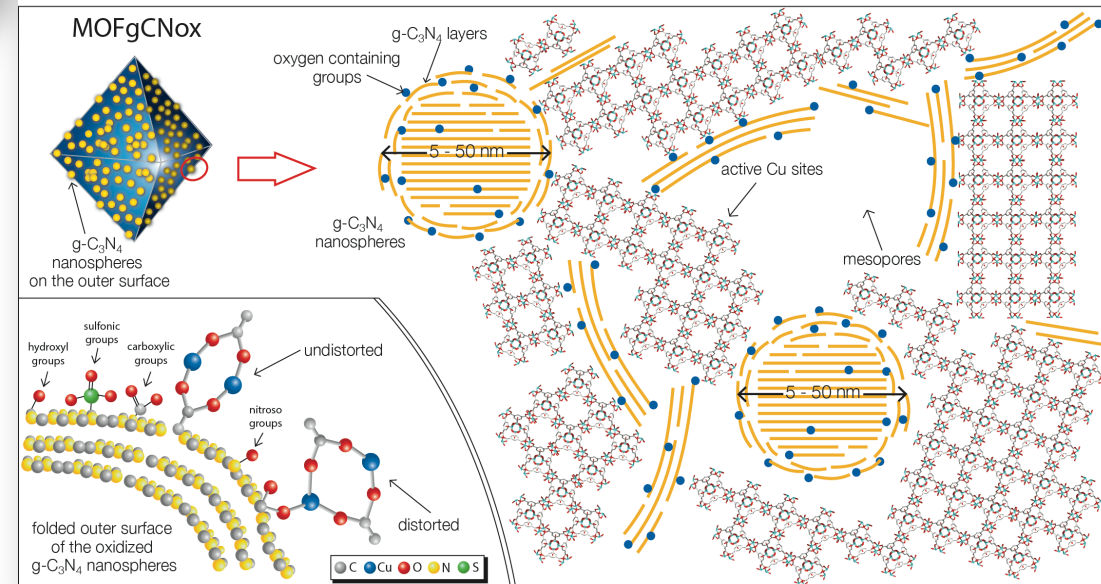
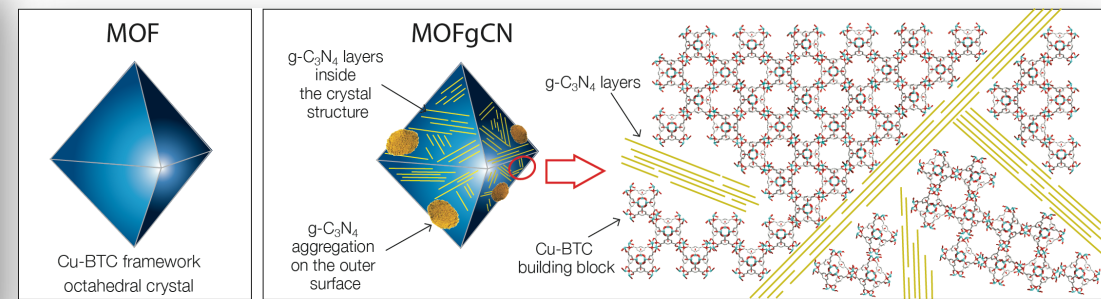
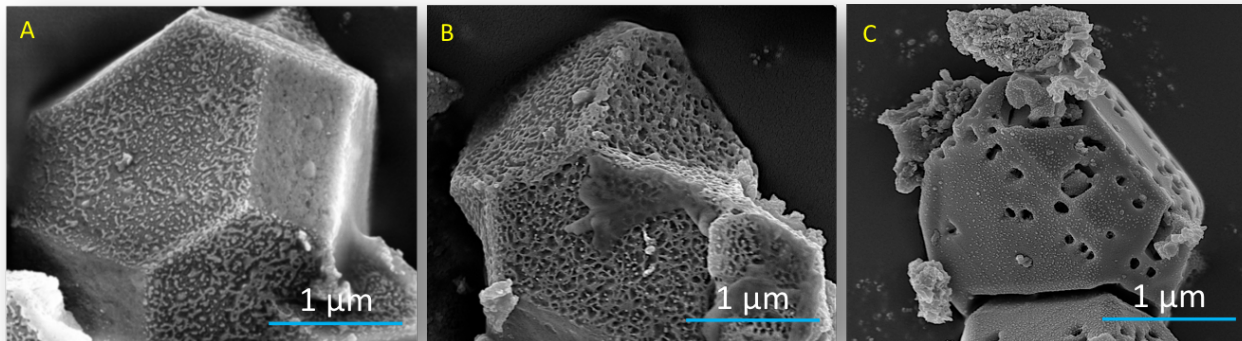




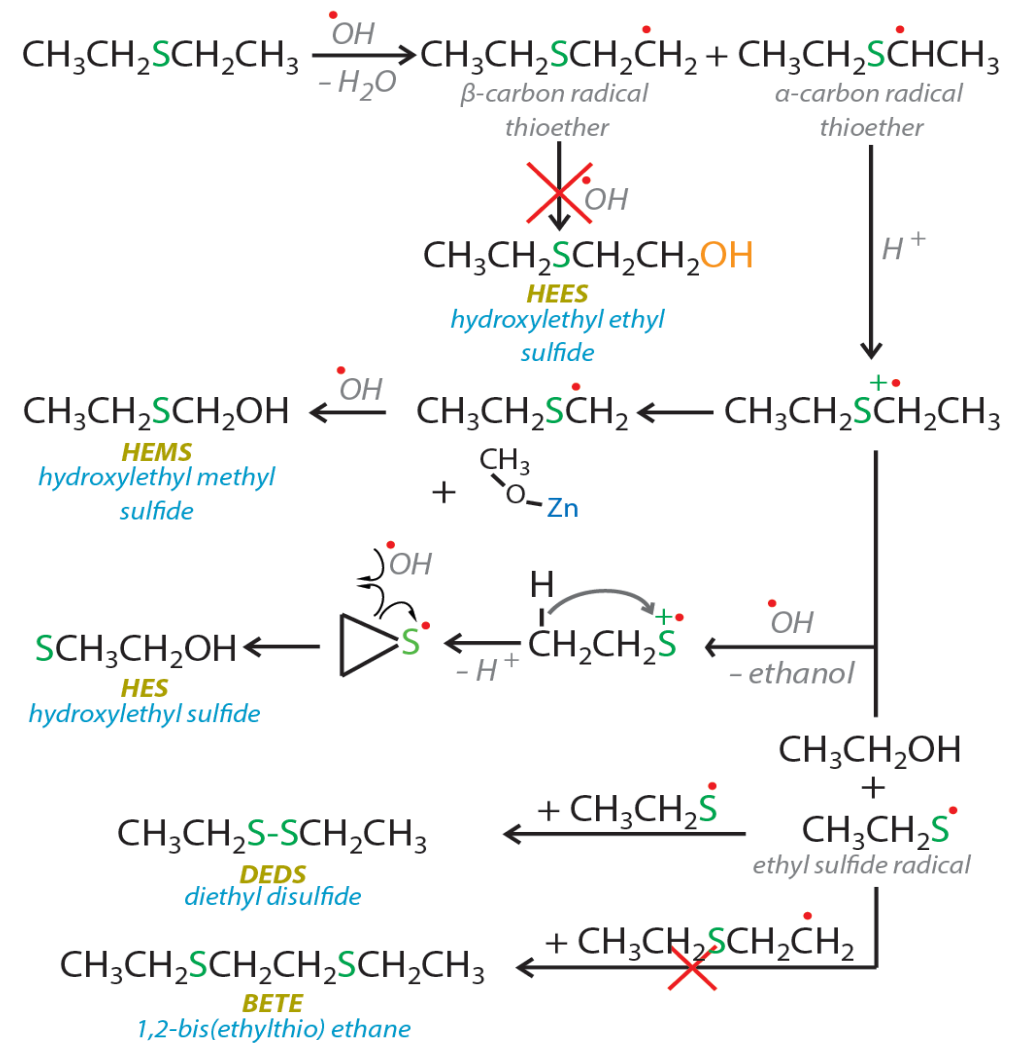
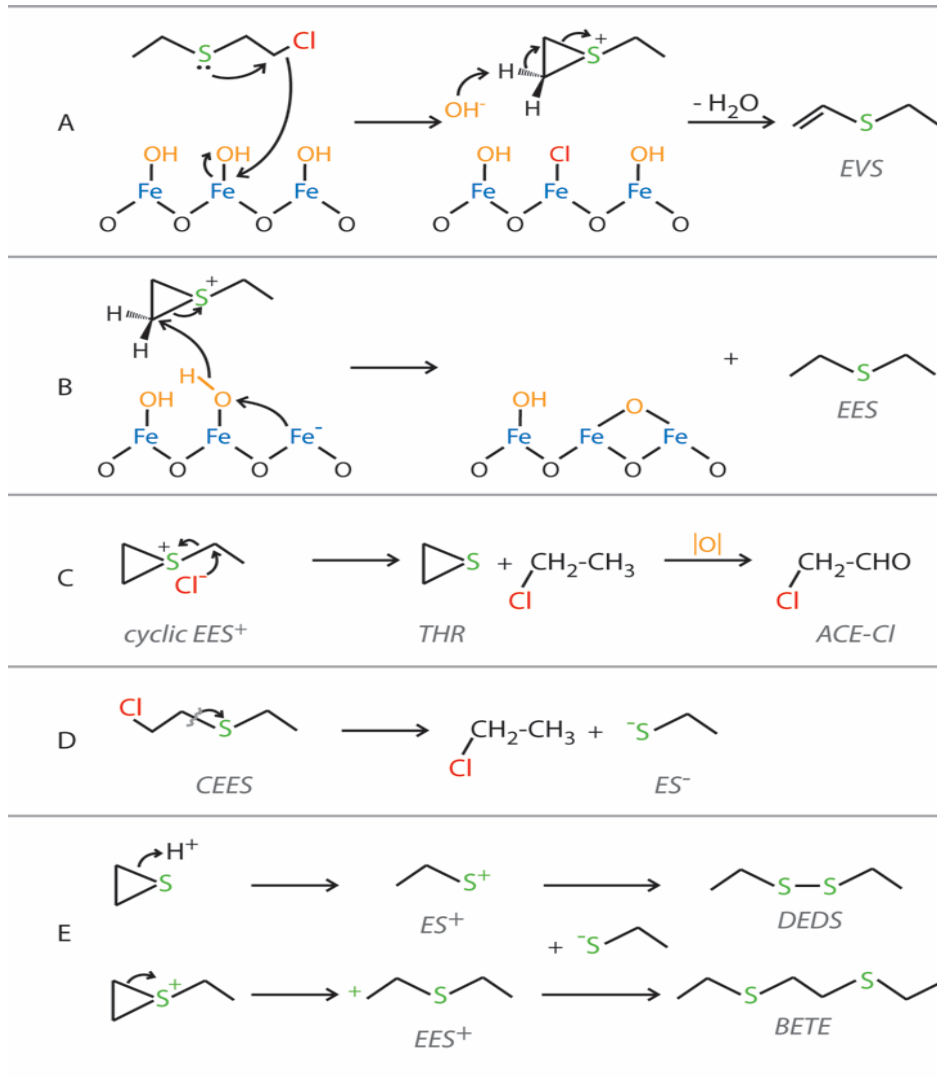
# Cu-BTC/g-C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> composites: Activity- DMCP



# Cu-BTC/g- $C_3N_4$ composites: Porosity



# General decontamination mechanism



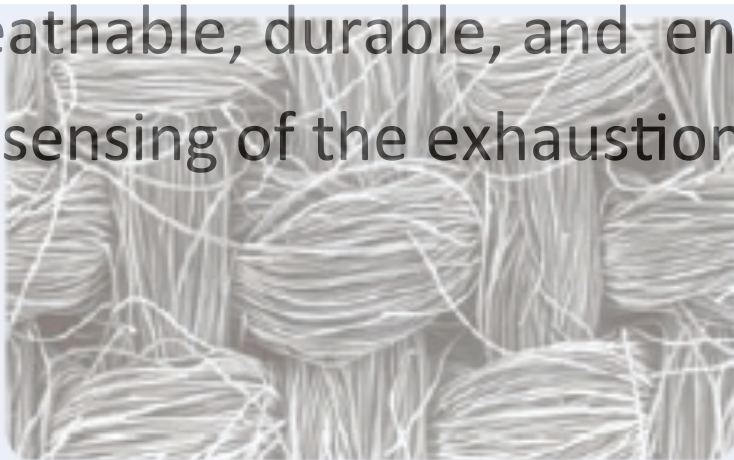
# Key Findings

- ❑ Defects in the catalytic phase of metal (hydr)oxide promote reactivity towards CWA
- ❑ Addition of GO increases the surface heterogeneity and thus activity
- ❑ Deposition of active phase on fibers results in synergist effect related to the surface distribution of active phase and defects
- ❑ The color change of the active phase/fabrics might be an indicative of the exhaustion level of the protection layers
- ❑ **High surface area of carbon cloths/textiles and electrical conductivity make them potential candidates for smart and reactive fabrics**



# Why Modified Carbon fibers as a support for an active phase ?

- ❑ Their surface can be chemically modified to create site for active phase strong/covalent attachment.
- ❑ On the interface new chemistry beneficial for the decontamination can be formed
- ❑ The surface reaction products can be adsorbed in the developed pore system enhancing adsorption of organic molecules
- ❑ The conductivity of carbon phase may promote redox/oxidation reactions
- ❑ The support is light, breathable, durable, and environmentally stable
- ❑ Possibility to integrate sensing of the exhaustion level



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## CONTRIBUTORS

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